

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MBFR-04 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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USUN NEW YORK 320

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E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: PFOR DA UR UN

SUBJ: DANISH GOVERNMENT PROTESTS OVER SOVIET HUMAN
RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

1. PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN ISSUED PUBLIC
PROTEST SEPTEMBER 11 OVER SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF UN
TREATY PROVISIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY
TOLD NEWSMEN THAT ALTHOUGH FOREIGN MINISTER ANADERSEN
HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN CABINET MEETING WHICH DECIDED
TO ISSUE PROTEST, BECAUSE HE WAS ATTENDING EC FOREIGN
MINISTERS MEETING, THE DANISH GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT
HAD FULL SUPPORT OF THE EC MINISTERS. HOWEVER,
INDEPENDENT DAILY POLITIKEN, WHICH INTERVIEWED SIX
OF EC MINISTERS, FOUND NO ONE WILLING TO COMMENT ON
SUBJECT.

2. TEXT OF STATEMENT: BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

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QUOTE: AT THE CABINET MEETING TODAY I BRIEFED THE

GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED RECENTLY ABOUT THE MORE RIGOROUS POLICY IN THE SOVIET UNION TOWARD CITIZENS WHO CRITICIZE CONDITIONS THERE. THIS DEVELOPMENT MUST ALSO CAUSE CONCERN IN DENMARK. THE EFFORTS MADE OVER MANY YEARS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THE UN TREATY ABOUT RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE RESULTED IN IMPORTANT PROGRESS. UNFORTUNATELY, WE STILL SEE EXAMPLES OF THE RIGHT OF FREEDOM, WHICH WE REGARD AS SELF-EVIDENT, BEING VIOLATED.

IN RECENT YEARS WE HAVE EXPERIENCED GRATIFYING DETENTE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, WHICH HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO RAISE THESE QUESTIONS FOR OPEN DEBATE, BUT THIS SHOULD NOT PREVENT US FROM PROTESTING AGAINST DISREGARD FOR UN TREATY PROVISIONS ON RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. END QUOTE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. PRIME MINISTER MADE IT CLEAR HE STILL EXPECTS TO MAKE HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO SOVIET UNION NEXT MONTH, AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED. SOME PRESS SOURCES SPECULATE THAT STATEMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY STRONGER IF JORGENSEN HAD NOT BEEN AFRAID OF JEOPARDIZING VISIT. FACT THAT HE ISSUED STATEMENT AT ALL IS NOTEWORTHY AND IS PROBABLY ACCOUNTED FOR BY EXTENSIVE COVERAGE DANISH MEDIA HAVE GIVEN TO SOVIET SMEAR CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOLZHENITSYN AND SAKHAROV.
CROWE

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